

I want to say to all my colleagues, because all of us have said it over and over again, that we are all opposed to the cloning of human beings. I believe this House is already on record having said that. But a lot of us believe that science is important, that taking care of the human beings who live here, to provide better health, a chance to live, a hope that paraplegics will walk, that diabetes will be done away with, that cancer can be found a cure for, all the promises that stem cells hold.

I want to say the same thing that my colleague, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. CAPUANO) said. I recall the first debate when the first organ transplants took place, that that perhaps is not God's will. Maybe God expects us to help ourselves and to take advantage of the things he has given us here on Earth, to learn to do better and to do better for our fellow human beings.

Underlying all of this, Mr. Speaker, is that this House is in no way ready to debate this measure. There simply is not enough knowledge on either side. People are not clear on what is happening here. I am absolutely certain, as are many Members in this House, that this does away with stem cell research despite the fact that the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WELDON) believes it does not. There are far too many of us that believe that it does.

There are far too many questions left unanswered. The underlying case is, is the United States going to turn its back on science, and let other countries do it and then prohibit, with this legislation, the ability for us to even take advantage of breakthroughs, if they occur in another country, because we cannot import the cure?

What a terrible thought that must be for people out there who are waiting on a daily basis for something wonderful to happen to save the life of someone who means the world to them, for people who sit by a child's bedside and for people who pray every day for some deliverance from some awful scourge. I think they expect from us to know what we are doing here today.

I urge with all my heart a no vote on this rule to give us time in this House to really understand what we are doing because of the far-reaching implications of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GIBBONS). The time of the gentleman from New York has expired.

The gentlewoman from North Carolina has 2½ minutes remaining and has the right to close.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to clarify a remark based on what the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER) said. I said that the amendments of everybody who came before the Committee on Rules, who came to testify, were accepted. The other amendments were rejected in the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WELDON).

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, let me in closing just say I think this is a very fair and equitable rule. We allowed the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GREENWOOD) a full hour to debate the merits of his issue. I believe we will get a full airing of the essential debate.

I think the essential debate is, do we want to take the next step on this embryo stem cell issue, and take the Nation to the place where we are going to be creating embryos, no longer using so-called excess embryos, but we are going to start creating embryos.

I am a physician. I saw patients just last week. I have treated patients with Alzheimer's disease, Lou Gehrig's disease, diabetes. My father had diabetes. To hold out reproductive cloning as a solution to these problems is pie in the sky. It does not even exist.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. WELDON of Florida. I only have 2 minutes.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. We are not talking about reproductive cloning.

Mr. WELDON of Florida. I will not yield.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman will suspend. The gentleman from Florida has the time.

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I would be very pleased to discuss the issue of reproductive cloning. It does not exist. It is a theoretical construct.

I was just on the phone with a physician colleague from Chicago last night, who spoke to the world's most eminent embryologist at Stanford University, and I am quoting from him when he says, "It is pie in the sky."

One other thing I just want to clarify: My colleague, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DEUTSCH), said the somatic cell nuclear transfer creating a cloned embryo is not the creation of life. I think to put forward that notion is totally absurd. That is like saying Dolly is not alive.

We are talking about creating human embryos for destructive research purposes, creating them. We are not talking about using the embryos in the IVF clinics anymore, in the freezers, the so-called excess embryos; we are talking about creating them for research purposes. I believe that is a line we do not want to cross.

We will have that debate in a little while. I encourage everyone to vote yes on this rule.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote yes on this rule so we can go ahead and have this debate, and discuss this complex and substantive issue.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on House Resolution 214 will be followed by a 5-minute vote on H.R. 2540.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 239, nays 188, not voting 7, as follows:

[Roll No. 300]

YEAS—239

Aderholt	Goss	Nussle
Akin	Graham	Oberstar
Armey	Graves	Ortiz
Bachus	Green (WI)	Osborne
Baker	Greenwood	Ose
Ballenger	Grucci	Otter
Barcia	Gutknecht	Oxley
Barr	Hall (OH)	Paul
Bartlett	Hall (TX)	Pence
Barton	Hansen	Peterson (MN)
Bereuter	Hart	Peterson (PA)
Berry	Hastert	Petri
Biggert	Hastings (WA)	Phelps
Bilirakis	Hayes	Pickering
Blunt	Hayworth	Pitts
Boehlert	Hefley	Platts
Boehner	Herger	Pombo
Bonilla	Hilleary	Pomeroy
Brady (TX)	Hobson	Portman
Brown (SC)	Hoekstra	Pryce (OH)
Bryant	Holden	Putnam
Burr	Hostettler	Quinn
Burton	Houghton	Radanovich
Buyer	Hulshof	Rahall
Callahan	Hunter	Regula
Calvert	Hyde	Rehberg
Camp	Isakson	Reynolds
Cannon	Issa	Riley
Cantor	Istook	Roemer
Capito	Jenkins	Rogers (KY)
Carson (OK)	John	Rogers (MI)
Chabot	Johnson (IL)	Rohrabacher
Chambliss	Johnson, Sam	Ros-Lehtinen
Coble	Jones (NC)	Ryan (WI)
Collins	Keller	Ryun (KS)
Combest	Kelly	Saxton
Cooksey	Kennedy (MN)	Scarborough
Costello	Kerns	Schaffer
Cox	Kildee	Schrock
Crane	King (NY)	Sensenbrenner
Crenshaw	Kingston	Sessions
Cubin	Kirk	Shadegg
Culberson	Knollenberg	Sherwood
Cunningham	Kucinich	Shimkus
Davis, Jo Ann	Langevin	Shows
Davis, Tom	Largent	Shuster
Deal	Latham	Simmons
DeLay	LaTourette	Simpson
DeMint	Leach	Skeen
Diaz-Balart	Lewis (CA)	Skelton
Doolittle	Lewis (KY)	Smith (MI)
Doyle	Linder	Smith (NJ)
Dreier	LoBiondo	Smith (TX)
Duncan	Lucas (KY)	Souder
Dunn	Lucas (OK)	Stearns
Ehlers	Manzullo	Stenholm
Ehrlich	Mascara	Stump
Emerson	Matheson	Stupak
English	McCarthy (NY)	Sununu
Everett	McCrery	Sweeney
Ferguson	McHugh	Tancredo
Flake	McInnis	Tauzin
Fletcher	McIntyre	Taylor (MS)
Foley	McKeon	Taylor (NC)
Forbes	McNulty	Terry
Fossella	Mica	Thomas
Frelinghuysen	Miller, Gary	Thornberry
Gallegly	Mollohan	Thune
Ganske	Moran (KS)	Tiahrt
Gekas	Morella	Tiberi
Gibbons	Myrick	Toomey
Gilchrest	Nethercutt	Trafficant
Gillmor	Ney	Turner
Goode	Northup	Vitter
Goodlatte	Norwood	Walden